

Amendments to Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, Line 22 with the following paragraph:

After defect image data is provided, it may then be determined whether there are any manual class codes present in operation 102. In other words, it is determined whether a user has already manually classified a set of defects. If there are no manual class codes, a manual classification procedure will then be initiated in combination with an automatic process to increase the efficiency of such manual classification procedure. In general terms, techniques are provided so as to help a user efficiently classify a manageable subset of defects. First, the defects may be automatically grouped and a representative set of defects from each group is presented to a user for classification in operation 104. However, this grouping operation is ~~optionally~~ optional and may be skipped. Alternatively, a representative set from the whole defect set may be presented to the user for classification without first grouping the defects into groups.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, Line 14 with the following paragraph:

Representative defects from each group are presented to the user. Viewing the representative defects, the user may continue to adjust the total group number until he/she is satisfied that the presented defects are divided among a correct number of groups. For example, when each group has similar types of defects, the user may determine that total group number is set correctly. Otherwise, when one or more groups ~~group~~ contain significantly differing defect types, the user may adjust the total group number. In the illustrated example, group1 304a has 10 representative defects having a similar appearance; group2 304b has 9 representative defects having a similar appearance; group3 304c has 10 representative defects having a similar

appearance; and group4 304d has 8 representative defects having a similar appearance (group5 is not visible and may be seen by scrolling down).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, Line 3 with the following paragraph:

The representative defects generally include a minimum set of defects that require user classification. For instance, when there is ~~are~~ a plurality of nearly identical defects within a group, a single defect from this identical set is selected to be included in the representative set for such group. Additionally, boundary defects or the most different defects within a group are typically selected as part of the representative set.